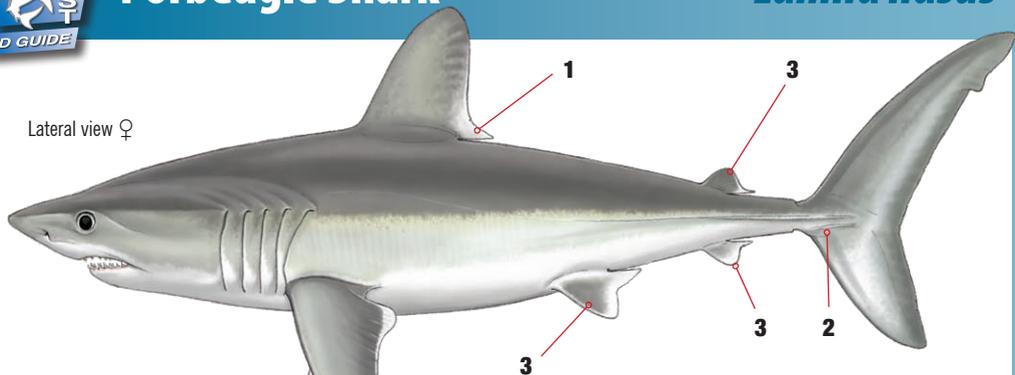
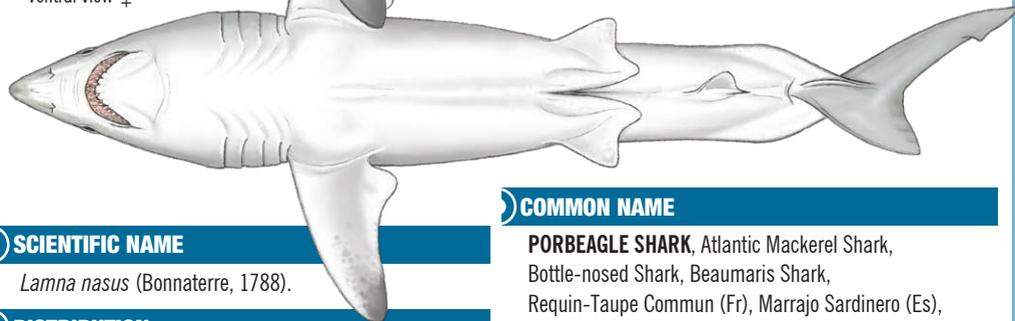


Lateral view ♀



Ventral view ♀



SCIENTIFIC NAME

Lamna nasus (Bonnaterre, 1788).

DISTRIBUTION

Circumglobal in temperate seas, excluding the North Pacific. Northeast Atlantic from Iceland and Russia to Morocco and Madeira, including the Mediterraneanⁱⁱⁱ.



COMMON NAME

PORBEAGLE SHARK, Atlantic Mackerel Shark, Bottle-nosed Shark, Beaumaris Shark, Requin-Taupe Commun (Fr), Marrajo Sardinero (Es), Tiburón Sardinero (Es), Tintorerá (Es).

IDENTIFICATION

- 1 Large first dorsal fin with white free rear tip.
- 2 Secondary keel on caudal fin.
- 3 Very small pelvic, anal and second dorsal fins!

COLOUR

- White free rear tip of first dorsal fin.
- Dark blue to grey dorsally.
- Pale to white ventrally.
- Adults are smaller and can be darker ventrally in the southern hemisphereⁱⁱⁱ.

BIOLOGY AND SIZE

- Born: 58–67cm. Mature: 200–219cm ♀ 155–177cm ♂ⁱⁱ. Max TL: 365cmⁱ.
- Maintains its body temperature through a heat-exchange system allowing it to range into temperate regionsⁱ.
- 1–5 pups in each litter, average of 4. Gestation period is 8–9 monthsⁱⁱ.
- Primarily a piscivore, preferring pelagic fish and cephalopods where abundantⁱⁱⁱ.

TEETH



- Moderately large, blade-like teeth with lateral cusps.
- First upper lateral teeth have nearly straight cuspsⁱⁱⁱ.

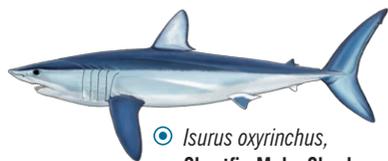
SIMILAR SPECIES



○ *Lamna nasus*, **Porbeagle Shark**



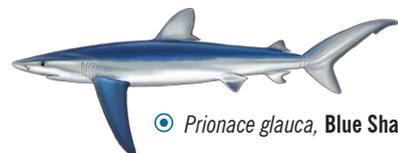
○ *Carcharodon carcharias*,
White Shark



○ *Isurus oxyrinchus*,
Shortfin Mako Shark



○ *Isurus paucus*,
Longfin Mako Shark



○ *Prionace glauca*, **Blue Shark**

HABITAT

- From surface to 715m in pelagic and coastal watersⁱⁱⁱ.
- Migratory according to temperature with a preference for 7–8°C. Single record of a shark crossing the Atlantic.
- Segregate by size and sexⁱ.

CONSERVATION STATUS

- Heavily fished since the early 1900's, populations have declined significantly in the North Atlantic^{iv}.
- **Red List status:** Vulnerable (2005). Critically Endangered in the northeast Atlantic.

COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE

- Previously an extremely valuable species taken in trawl, line and gillnet fisheries.
- Utilised primarily for their flesh throughout Europe. Fins are exported and liver oil may be used^{iv}.
- 2010 – Subject to a TAC of zero in EU waters.

HANDLING

- Handle with care.
- Large, powerful shark.
- Sharp teeth and abrasive skin.

REFERENCES

- i. Compagno, L. J. V.; 2001. FAO.
- ii. Francis, M. P. *et al*; 2008. Blackwell Publishing.
- iii. Roman, B; Unknown. FLMNH.
- iv. Stevens, J. *et al*; 2006. IUCN Red List.